of some of the greatest Spaniards of the fifteenth, sixteenth, seventeenth and eighteenth centuries. In many cases, it is provable. The group of poets at the court of Henry IV of Castile, whose writings throw so much light upon the social history of the time, were to a large extent of Jewish birth. Foremost among them was the impudent Ant6n de Montoro, "the ragman of Cordova", who has been called "the most sympathetic and attractive poet in the entire Castilian Parnassus of the fifteenth century", and who went out of his way to call attention to his origin in his audacious satires. Others were Juan de Espana, Juan de Valladolid, Rodrigo Cota de Maguaque, and the rest. Conditions were very much the same in Aragon, where the revival of vernacular literature under Juan II was due in considerable measure to the genius of persons of Jewish blood, being largely inspired by the *converso,* Alfonso de Santa Maria. Similarly the eminent physician, Francisco Lopez de Villalobos, a classical Spanish stylist, was of Jewish extraction, as was also Pedro Guttierez de Santa Clara, historian of the conquest of Peru. And even in our own time, the famous historical novelist, Camilo Castelo Branco, who may be described without any exaggeration as the Portuguese Walter Scott, descended from a Jewish family.

Two Marrano contributions to Spanish literature deserve more detailed consideration, because of their

influence on European letters as a whole.

Luis Ponce de Leon was perhaps the greatest lyric poet that Spain has produced. Going back to the Bible for his inspiration (possibly this is not entirely a coincidence) he introduced a fresh naturalism into Spanish poetry, which lived on in the poets and romancers who came after him. To-day, he is remembered for a few odes and hymns which are said to reveal a majestic and